Power Crisis in the Ensuing Summer

2233. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a worst power crisis all over the country is anticipated in the ensuing summer;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government to avert the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Based on the tentative generation target and anticipated requirement of energy in various regions of the country during the ensuing summer months of April/May and June, 2000, the country is likely to face energy shortage of the order of 5.5%. The energy shortage in Northern, Southern and Western Regions are likely to be of the order of 7.1 % 6.8% and 4.4% respectively. Eastern and North-Eastern Regions are not likely to face any energy shortages.

(b) The reasons for shortage of power are greater increase in requirement of energy compared to availability, low voltage conditions in the grid due to inadequate installation of shunt capacitors, shortage of peaking power in the grid, constraints in transmission and distribution system and low PLF of some of the power station.

(c) In order to improve availability of power and generation capacity and make optimal use of the available power resources in the country, the following measures have been taken:—

(i) Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme.

(ii) Promotion of measures for demand side management such as flattening of load curve by staggering weekly off day of industrial consumers and regulation of power supply to consumers through grouping restrictions.

(iii) Renovation and modernisation(R&M) of existing generating stations.

(iv) Disbursement of loans by Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of thermal power stations under accelerated generation programme.

(v) Promotion of inter-state and inter-regional power transfers.

(vi) Coordinated operation of hydro, thermal nuclear and gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(vii) Augmentation of transmission, transformation capacity in the power system and installation of shunt capacitors to improve the voltage.

(viii) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

Consumption of Energy by Different Sectors

2234. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is rate of energy consumption by different sectors during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) whether it is a fact that the growth rate of energy consumption have not increased according to the estimate of the Power Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The rate of growth of actual (Restricted) energy consumption in the country by different sectors during the year 1997-98 is given below; the data for 1998-99 is under collection and compilation:—

S. No. Sector	Percentage growth rate during 1997-98 Actual (Restricted)
1. Domestic	11.6
2. Commercial & Miscellaneous	10.1
3. Public Lighting	6.1
4. Public Waterworks	10.5
5. Irrigation	8.6
6. Industry	1.8
7. Railway Traction	5.3
TOTAL;	6.7

(b) and (c) The growth rates as estimated in the 15th Electric Power Survey Committee (EPC), in respect of the industrial, public lighting, public matter works and Railway traction sectors have not been achieved. However, the growth rates in the domestic, commercial and agriculture have been achieved.

The reasons for the difference in the estimated and actual growth rates are:—